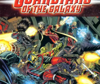
In the wake of two catastrophic events, our Universe is in a fragile, weakened state. With the fabric of space itself damaged, anomalous fissures are beginning to appear, fissures that could crack and spread, collapsing reality and letting in dark things that should not exist in our dimension.

Guided by the mystical insight of the newly returned Adam Warlock, the gunslinging Star-Lord has forged a proactive team of proven cosmic champions ready to protect the vulnerable universe and prevent any disasters from ever happening again. Together, Star-Lord, Warlock, Gamora, Quasar, Drax and Rocket Raccoon are the...

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY



On their debut mission to prevent the collapse of a fissure anomaly, the Guardians have clashed with followers of the mighty Universal Church of Truth, an intolerant and zealous religious empire. Believing the Guardians to be anti-Church heretics, the UTC has decreed Star-Lord's squad to be enemies of the faith.

Back aboard Knowhere, the team's refuge HQ at the edge of space/time, the Guardians are alerted to another imminent fissure collapse taking place at 56 Hydronis. As they prepare for teleportation, little do they suspect that at 56 Hydronis, something has come through...

LIGHTLY OF SO MYSTERIOUS...
TRANSFER COMPLETE
YEAH. THAT'S ONE NASTY HOLE IN SPACE.
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT.
IM RUNNIRED! THE PASSURE ISN'T ALREADY IN DELTA!
SOMETHING WE CAN DEFEAT?
SOMETHING WORSE.
HIVE ME A MOMENT TO DIVINE THE ANSWER TO THAT QUANDRY.
I AM CERTAIN THE ONE IMMACE CONFINUES UNCHECKED THRU THE AREA OF SPACE WE'LL BE ENTERING IN ON ITSELF LIKE
LIKE.
CAN'T THINK OF AN ANALOGY BIG ENOUGH?
OR BAD ENOUGH?
DESTROY 1,000 STAR-LORDS! PETER-JASON QUILL-HALF-BREED-ALIEN-HUMAN! DISHONORED AND FIRED!
YEAH. THE WHOLE "SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM" THING. I'M CLAIM TO BE ANY KIND OF EXPERT. THAT'S MARLOCK'S DEPARTMENT.
ALL I KNOW IS THE ANNIHILATION WAVE DISHONORED, DISGRACED, EARLY BIRTH OF MY ARSE FALLING APART.
AND WORST OF ALL, THE JUSTICE THAT'S GET TO FIX THE HOLES!
WHAT'S THE VERDICT, ADAM?
I'M SETTING ASIDE MY CAPTAIN, STAR-LORD.
BUT THIS WASN'T WE'RE STANDING ON. THIS IS WHAT'S THROUGHOUT THE PASSURE. IT IS NOT OF OUR REALITY.
DEFINE "WAS?"

I'M SENSING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE BEHIND THE FACE OF PETER. THE REMAINS OF HIS REAL TOO.
IF I JUST MELT THE ICE AWAY A LITTLE...
NO, P'AU!
PETER! ADAM-ONE HERE!
IF I'D KNOWN WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT...
I'D HAVE TOLD THE TEAM THE HELL OUT OF THERE IMMEDIATELY.
REDACT USS STARLORD
PSSHH
MANTIS, THIS IS STAR-LORD. YOU READING ME?
LEE-PETER!
BEAMING YOU A VIBLAST RIGHT NOW.

TEAM CONTROL CENTER, KHOUNERA...
RECEIVING YOUR FEED, PETER.
I CAN BARELY PUTE PRECISELY. THINGS I CAN EXPLAIN??
IT'S THE SHOWER AT AVENGERS MANSION.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN, AND YOU KNOW IT!
THIS IS DISQUIETING REVELATION.
"DISQUIETING." HE SAYS? IT'S FREAKING ME OUT!
ARE WE SAYING THIS WHOLE PLACE IS A LIVING ORGANISM? WHAT IF SOMEHOW BEEN WITTEN OFF AND SPIT THROUGH TIME-SPACE?!
QUIET! I CAN'T HEAR WHAT SOMETHING I CAN--
GAH!
QUASAR!
YEAH, THAT'S NOT GOOD.
THRUNNCHH!

ELEMENTAL QUASAR: HALF-WELL, HALF-ETERNAL, HALF-KREE, POSSESSES THE QUANTUM SANDS!
I'M NOT CAME AT ME. I'M NOT SURE IF IT HAD ME BY THE THROAT!
I REACTED, INSTINCTIVELY!
NLUHH!
THHA-KOOOOM
AGREED! THE WHOLE PLANET'S A FUNTIME TO SHARE!
I DON'T LIKE THE FEEL OF THAT!
I FEAR THAT PHYLLE'S ATTEMPT AT ACCELERATING THE THAWING PROCESS
GET HER LOCAL, MARVOC!
THAWING NOT THAW WHEN THAWING PROCESS
THINGS WERE BITCHSLED TO HELL AND BACK-PASSED THROUGH THE VOID, PETER, AND NOW THEY'RE THAWING LIKE
THE HELL DO YOU MEAN, "REACTED INSTINCTIVELY"?
REACTIVATING VITAL SYSTEMS...
PA-KAH PA-KAH

THIS IS NOT GOING TO LOOK GOOD ON A RESUME!
I'M GONNA PUT EVERYTHING RIGHT? SHIELD. MAYBE!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S TALKING ABOUT, BUT I'M SURE IT'S FUNNY!
—UGH!
ADAM'S BEEN GRABBED! HE'S GONE!
BLAST IT ALL, I'VE BEEN HIT WITH SOMETHING SO MUCH MORE POWERFUL THAN ONE...
ADAM, ADAM!
AAAAH! I'M GETTING LIGHTNING!
SHUUUUUUUUU
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?
HEY, DARKADAM. BLAST OUT OF THERE! USE YOUR FINGER! THAT'S POWERFUL! GET OUT OF THERE!
CRRRANG
FZZAP!

MY NAME...
...IS NO NAME IS...
I AM VANCE ASTROVIK. I DO MAJOR PHILANTHROPIC WORK ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE GALAXY.
PLEASE, CAN YOU TELL ME YOUR TELL-ME-WHEN?

UHH--
FRIENDLY IS DOWN!
HELP HIM!
ADAM, ARE YOU HURT?
I'M OKAY. PHY, TELL THE OTHERS TO RESUME THEIR POSITIONS. RETURN BOUNCER.
WE'RE LEAVING?
PHY, THIS MISSILE WHAT'S AGGRAVATING YOUR CONCENTRATION OF FROZEN TIME RUN OUT? HOW SOON IS IT THAWS
SO WHAT ARE THESE THINGS IN THE SKY?
EXTRA-DIMENSIONAL ENTITIES THAT SHOULDN'T EVEN EXIST IN OUR UNIVERSE.
LISTEN TO ME, PHY! I'M GOING TO TRY AND DISINTEGRATE THIS MISSILE BEFORE THE MIND-CONTROL FROM THE PASSIVE ENTITIES!!
WHIPP! YOU CAN DO THAT?
WELL, WE'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT!
PETER? ADAM SAYS YOU'RE HURT!
SHHOOM
GET A PASSPORT ON THE NEW CITY? IS ANYONE REMEMBER TO DRINK A SPARE PASSPORT?
RELAX, QUILL. IT'S A SOCIAL BEATER. WAIT TO ALLOW FOR THE ORIGINAL TO BE DRUNK, I'VE BROUGHT SPARES.
SMART THINKING, SANDERS. REMIND ME TO KISS YOU LATER.
OH, LIKE THAT'S NEVER HAPPENED.

VS. DEITIES...
THIS HAS BEEN THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH OF TRUTH'S PATTERN FOR MANY, MANY YEARS.
IT IS THE CHURCH'S PLAN TO MONOPOLIZE ALL RELIGIONS. THAT'S HOW FAST THE CHURCH SPREADS.
THE ORDER WAYS TREM WITH TEMPLARS, KNIGHTS AND PILGRIM TRAFFIC. THEY ARE THE ACCUMULATE MINDS.
CARDINAL RAIDEN, THANK YOU FOR YOUR REPORT, SIR.
AND, AS EVER, YOU ARE IN OUR PRAYERS.
I CLAIM THE SOUTH AMERICAN CARDINAL AS MY PROPERTY.
AND THE REST OF THE CARDINALS ARE MINE!
ILL HERE! ILL DEATH! BITCHCRAFT!
ONE OF OUR TEMPLARS SHIPS WAS ATTACKED, BOARDED, RANSACKED. THE CREW WAS MASSACRED. 3 WEEKS SINCE OUT RETRIBUTION AND PENANCE.
BUT SOMETHING ELSE HAPPENED, EXCELLENCY?
LOOK FOR YOURSELF.
I HAVE HAD TIME TO STUDY THE LOGS FROM THE TEMPLESHIP TANCRED. ONE OF THE ATTACKERS...
I SEE, EXCELLENCY! NOW YOU'RE UNSETTLING.
UNLESS IN YOUR CARDINAL'S RAIDEN AND THESE INDIVIDUALS. TEST THEM.
BRING ME CONFIRMATION.
I WILL, EXCELLENCY.

OVERLORD: ADAM WARLOCK
COSMIC BEING: KHNNUSSO
ABILITIES: ENERGY MANIPULATION!
THE GOOD PART IS, I SUCCESSFULLY CONTAINED ANOTHER ANOMALY!
THE OTHER PART IS, I'VE LEFT US WITH A LOT OF UNSETTLING QUESTIONS.
KNOWHERE...
SO WHO IS HE, AND YOU KNOW? BECOME MORE EVIL? A THING!
MARKETPLACE LEVEL...
CALM DOWN, DEBBIE. WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING YET!
I KNOW METALLOJACK SCANS FOR!
BUT THE PANELS?
IT'S A COPY OF THE SHIELD. IT'S THE MOST PERFECT COPY!
LET'S JUST KEEP...
HEY! ISN'T THAT DRAX?
DRAX! DRAX!

IT'S THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD. WHERE IN THE QUASAR HAVE YOU BEEN?
THE CONTINUUM CORTEX.
OH. RIGHT.
I'D FORGOT TO MENTION MY PASSPORT. ACCIDENT. YOU ALWAYS CAN SO ASK QUESTIONS!
SCARY.
I'D HOPED TO SURPRISE ET THE MARKET. I THOUGHT IT'D GONE.
IT'S GOOD FOR US, SCI.
WE GOT REPAIRS, ORDERS, AND THE BEST BIRDS FOR THAT.
I'M MAKING MACARONI AND CHEESE.
HEATHER'S ONCE TOLD ME IT WAS ONE OF HER FAVORITES.
THIS PLACE HAS EVERYTHING.
HOW YOU FOUND MACARONI HERE?
IF YOU COOK, I'LL EAT.
DRAX? ARSN'T YOU, ALL INTRIGUED BY WHAT WE FOUND TODAY?
ANY REASON I SHOULD BE?
I DUNNO. HEARD HER WAS ONCE AN AVENGER.
EAT LOTS OF GOOD THAT DID HER.
"SO WHAT ARE YOU THINKING, PETER?"

TEAM CONTROL CENTER...
I'M THINKING...
YOU KNOW WHAT BROUGHT THEM TOGETHER, TONY? WHAT I MEAN, WHAT REALLY CEMENTED THEM?
THE DISCOVERY OF CAPTAIN AMERICA FROZEN IN A BLOCK OF ICE!
SO, YOU DO KNOW YOUR BASTIT-- I ONE.
IS IT JUST ME, OR IS THIS JUST A LITTLE TOO PERFECT?
WE'RE TRYING TO BUILD A TEAM OF "WARM" HEROES, AND YOU GIVE HIM FIRE THAT FREEZES IN A BLOCK OF ICE.
FEELS LIKE SOMEONE TRYING TO FORCE SYMBOLISM HOMAGE UP TO ELEVEN.
HISTORY REPEATING ITSELF?
HISTORY DOESN'T REPEAT ITSELF, SHAKTA. BUT SOMETIMES IT RHYMES.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S WORSE--BEING GEN WIEDERMAN, ENTHUSIASTIC AND APPARENTLY DEMENTED BFF, OR APPARENTLY DEMENTED BFF.
IT'S FUNNY, WARLOCK AND I USED TO HAVE A THING.
AND I USED TO FIND HER PRETENTIOUS PHILOSOPHICAL COMMENTS AS ZINGING, DEBATING PIG.
NOW I FIND THEM WEIRDLY HOT.
SO THE SYMMETRY WORRIES YOU?
WORRIES ME THAT YOU HAVEN'T BEEN REJOICING OUT LOUD.
OTTO. I'M ADMITTEDLY TOUGH, BUT AM I THE DUMBEST OF THE GALAXY? I'M A PRETTY COOL NAME.

YEAH, THAT THING IS GONNA BE EXTRAORDINARILY EXPENSIVE.
YES, GROOT, I SEE YOUR OLD TREE EVEN BETTER THAN I GROOT AND BRANCHES.
THIS THING IS AMAZING! IT'S THE MOST EXTRAORDINARILY BALANCED WEAPON!
I'D LOVE TO TEST IT! OH, I THROW AROUND!
NOT IN HERE, THING! YOU'LL BREAK SOMETHING EXPENSIVE.
LET'S GO, ADAM. ;-
HEADS UP, EVERYONE. MANTIS IS TRIPPING BALLS AND I'VE TRIED BRAINS.
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
IN THERE AND HALF AN HOUR. THAT'S ALL. BE AWAY FROM THE PERSON INTERACTING WITH HUMAN AS YOU CAN'T WOULD BE DANGEROUS TO THEM.
GREAT. JUST GREAT. NOW?
HE'S ENCASED IN A TOTAL BIO-ORGANIC BODY SUIT. IT'S NOT ONLY PROTECTING HIM PHYSICALLY, NOT EVEN MY MOST POWERFUL TECHNOLOGY CAN HIS STASIS.
DEANING WHAT...?
THIS BEING IS ANCIENT. PETER'S SUIT HAVE THAT WAS BUILT IS THE ONLY THING KEEPING HIM CONTINUUM.
HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?
HE'S TEMPORALLY DISLOCATED!
THAT'S HOW THEY MOVE. EVERY TIME WE START A MANTIS.
WHAT IS HE DOING, KNOWS?
ABSOLUTELY NOTHING!
LET ME TALK TO HIM.
SHE'S A FREAK OF NATURE, THAT GIRL!
THAT'S WHY SHE FREEZES ME ABOUT HER.
MANTIS KNOWS WHAT SHE'S DOING?
NOPE.
AND YOU, "GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY"? THAT'S A LEFFER RIGHT?

BINARY STASIS TUCULIE DYSON SPHERE...
TRANSFER COMPLETE! ALL SYSTEMS NOMINAL!
A PURE, PULSATING ENERGY WAVE OF ARTIFICIAL SHELL!
QUITE A PIECE OF ENGINEERING!
SO, WHERE ARE THEY, EXACTLY? WHERE'S THE HABITABLE ZONE AND I'M READING EVERY ONE OF THEM!
AND I'M READING EVERY ONE OF THEM!
EVEN-THOUGH THE ATMOSPHERE POPULATION IS LISTED AS PERFECTLY FUNCTIONAL!
HERO OR CRISPY IF WE WEREN'T.
THE HAB ZONE'S PROTECTED BY THE SHELL! WHAT'S BEYOND THE INNER SURFACE OUTSIDE OF JUST ENERGY RECIPROCITY, BATHING IN THE RADIANCE?
OUTSIDE THE DOME, THE RAYS WOULD BE DEADLY!
THIS BLACK MASS ISN'T SHOWING ANY REMARKABLE FACILITY.
SO, I REPEAT THE QUESTION, WHAT'S YOUR STRATEGY?
HMMM?
SOMETHING BAD HAPPENED HERE.
INCOMING TELEPORT!

I DA BRAVE, I GLORY! SUCCUMB TO THE UNKNOWN CHAOS OF TRUTH!
TSCH-TSATTE TSCH-TSATTE TSCHRR! I'LL GIVE SURVIVE.

I HATE ACKNOWLEDGING MYSELF BEFORE THE FALSE GOD I'VE REPRESENT
KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN.
BELIEVE!
LET THE RUN BEGIN.
NEXT ISSUE: HOLY SMACKDOWN!!!